

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY S/S: PTARNOFF:GB
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 200588 TOSEC 090058

EXDIS/KOOLAIID FOR WISNER ONLY FROM TARNOFF

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR

SUBJECT:MISCELLANY

1. GAS TURBINES FOR THE PRC: ZBIG HAS A COPY OF MR. VANCE'S MEMORANDUM TO HAROLD BROWN ON THIS SUBJECT. HE IS WILLING TO WAIT UNTIL MR. VANCE RETURNS AND HAS AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE FURTHER WITH HAROLD BROWN AND HIMSELF BEFORE PUTTING THE ISSUE TO THE PRESIDENT.

2. SFRC: MR. VANCE'S APPEARANCE AT THE SFRC ON THE MIDDLE EAST NEXT MONDAY WILL BE IN CLOSED SESSION WITH NO REPEAT NO PREPARED TESTIMONY REQUIRED. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL, HOWEVER, IF MR. VANCE COULD INDICATE TO THE MIDDLE EAST GROUP ON THE PLANE HOW HE WOULD LIKE TO APPROACH THE SUBJECT. ANYTHING THAT YOU CAN GET DONE ON THE PLANE BY WAY OF A FIRST DRAFT OF TALKING POINTS FOR
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MR. VANCE'S BRIEF OPENING PRESENTATION OR DRAFT Q&A'S WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL.

3. ANDY YOUNG SPEECH: ANDY PROMISES THAT HE WILL GET US A COPY OF HIS AUGUST 9 ABA SPEECH BY COB TODAY, AUGUST 8. I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU CALLED FROM THE AIRCRAFT FOR A COPY AND WE WILL GET A TEXT TO YOU AS SOON AS IT

IS AVAILABLE. WE WILL ALSO TRY TO MAKE SURE THAT ANDY IS AWARE OF PRESS GUIDANCE, ESPECIALLY ON MIDDLE EAST MATTERS, FOR THE Q&A SESSION. ANDY HAS BEEN MADE FULLY AWARE OF OUR INTEREST IN SEEING AN ADVANCE TEXT-SO THAT WE CAN SUPPORT NOT CENSOR HIM - BUT I HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING WHETHER WE WILL HAVE IN HAND THE VERSION THAT HE ACTUALLY DELIVERS.

4. PHIL HABIB AWARD: THE VICE PRESIDENT HAS DECIDED NOT TO RESCHEDULE THE AWARDS CEREMONY WHICH WAS TO INCLUDE PHIL HABIB. MONDALE APPARENTLY FEELS THAT HE HAS TOO MANY SUCH EVENTS ON HIS CALENDAR. YOU MIGHT SEE WHETHER MR. VANCE WOULD AGREE TO PRESENT THE AWARD TO PHIL AT A SMALL LUNCH IN THE DEPARTMENT, ALONG THE LINES OF WHAT WAS PLANNED WHEN PHIL WAS SCHEDULED TO COME BACK LATE LAST MONTH. PROVIDING HIS HEALTH PERMITS IT, PHIL WOULD LIKE A REASON TO COME BACK BRIEFLY TO WASHINGTON. COULD I EXPLORE WITH HIM THE POSSIBILITY OF RETURNING IN EARLY SEPTEMBER AFTER THE BEGIN-SADAT VISIT HERE?

5. CHRIS' ABSENCE: CHRIS PLANS TO MAKE A SHORT VISIT TO USUN AFTER HIS ABA SPEECH TOMORROW. HE WILL BE BACK IN WASHINGTON NO LATER THAN 6:00 PM AND AVAILABLE IF MR. VANCE WANTS TO MEET HIM THEN, BUT PROBABLY NOT ABLE
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TO GO TO ANDREWS. WE WILL ALSO TRY TO DETERMINE TOMORROW WHEN THE PRESIDENT WANTS TO SEE MR. VANCE AFTER HIS RETURN. PLEASE LET US KNOW WHETHER MR. VANCE WILL GO STRAIGHT HOME AFTER LANDING, IF HE DOES NOT HAVE A MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT WEDNESDAY EVENING.

6. DAMASCUS STOP: YOU WILL NOTE THAT WE HAVE TRANSMITTED MR. VANCE'S REASONING FOR NOT MAKING ADDITIONAL STOPS IN THE MIDDLE EAST IN A NIGHT NOTE TO THE PRESIDENT. SINCE THE PRESIDENT IS IN NEW YORK, THIS WAS THE MOST EXPEDITIOUS WAY TO GET HIM THE SUBSTANCE OF MR. VANCE'S REACTION.

7. FOLLOWING ARE NEW DEVELOPMENTS ON MR. VANCE'S CALENDAR:

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11 - DINNER WITH CARDINAL BAUM CANCELLED
TUESDAY, AUGUST 15 - 3:15 NSC MEETING RE U.S. DEFENSE PROGRAMS IN RELATION TO THE NIE ON SOVIET GOLAS AND EXPECTATIONS IN THE GLOBAL POWER ARENA.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15 - 5:30 SENATOR KENNEDY WISHES TO CALL

ON THE SECRETARY RE HIS UPCOMING TRIP TO THE SOVIET UNION. EUR/SOV HAS RECOMMENDED THIS AND ALSO THAT MARSHALL SHULMAN BE PRESENT. MAY WE CONFIRM?

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17 - 10:30 PRC RE CIVIL DEFENSE. SEC. BROWN WILL CHAIR

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17 - 12:30 BROWN, BRZEZINSKI LUNCHEON - PENTAGON

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17 - 2:30 JEAN GOLD (US COUNCIL ON SOVIET JEWRY) 30 MINS.

8. HOUSE CUT OF SYRIA PROGRAM. THE FIRST OPPORTUNITY
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TO REVERSE THE HOUSE VOTE WILL BE JUST BEFORE FINAL PASSAGE OF THE AID APPROPRIATIONS BILL. THIS COULD HAPPEN NEXT WEEK, BUT IS MORE LIKELY TO BE HELD UNTIL AFTER LABOR DAY. IF THE VOTE SHOULD BE NEXT WEEK, IT WOULD TAKE A MAJOR ADMINISTRATION EFFORT, INCLUDING WHITE HOUSE MEETINGS FOR THE LEADERSHIP AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS, TO HAVE A CHANCE OF REVERSING THE VOTE, UNLESS THERE IS A DRAMATIC NEW ELEMENT IN THE SITUATION IN LEBANON. EVEN A MAJOR EFFORT COULD FAIL SINCE AIPAC, THE LEBANON AMERICAN LEAGUE AND THE ISRAELI KNESSET ARE ACTIVELY LOBBYING AGAINST US. NEA BELIEVES THAT IF THE SYRIANS WITHDREW FROM THE CHRISTIAN AREAS AND THEREBY EASED THE IMMEDIATE SITUATION, THIS MIGHT BE THE FULCRUM ON WHICH WE MIGHT LEVER THE HOUSE INTO A NEW STANCE. THIS IS NOT GOING TO OCCUR RIGHT AWAY, HOWEVER.

IF THE BILL IS HELD OFF THE FLOOR UNTIL SEPTEMBER, THERE MAY BE TIME FOR MORE SUBTLE IMPROVEMENTS ON THE GROUND TO BE USED TO PERSUADE THE HOUSE TO REVERSE ITS VOTE. IF NOT, THE MOST PROMISING TACTIC IS TO COUNT ON THE SENATE TO RESTORE THE FUNDS SO AT LEAST PART OF THE PROGRAM CAN SURVIVE A HOUSE/SENATE CONFERENCE. TWO NEGATIVE VOTES BY THE HOUSE MIGHT KILL CHANCES FOR A LARGE RESTORATION IN CONFERENCE. MR. VANCE'S LETTER TO INOUE WAS THE FIRST STEP IN THE SENATE. INOUE WILL NOT ACT, HOWEVER, UNTIL THE HOUSE COMPLETES ACTION ON THE APPROPRIATION.

OUR JUDGMENT HERE IS THAT WE WILL HAVE A BETTER CHANCE BY FOCUSING ON THE SENATE. THERE IS NOTHING MR. VANCE CAN DO NOW, BUT WE WILL HAVE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HIM FOR NEXT WEEK, IF THE BILL IS SCHEDULED, OR FOR LABOR DAY WEEK, IF IT IS HELD UNTIL THEN. IN THE MEANTIME, WE HAVE SCHEDULED MORRIE DRAPER TO TESTIFY BEFORE THE STONE
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SUBCOMMITTEE ON AUGUST 16 ON LEBANON, MR. VANCE IS SCHEDULED TO MEET WITH THE SFRC ON AUGUST 14, AND HAL SAUNDERS WILL BRIEF THE HAMILTON SUBCOMMITTEE ON AUGUST 15. BOTH MR. VANCE AND HAL WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO POINT OUT THE PROBLEMS CREATED BY THE HOUSE ACTION ON SYRIA.

FOLLOWING IS THE PRESS GUIDANCE THAT WE HAVE USED IN ANSWERING QUESTIONS ON THE CUTOFF OF AID TO SYRIA:

BEGIN QUOTE: THE ADMINISTRATION CONTINUES TO BELIEVE STRONGLY THAT THERE SHOULD BE A SECURITY SUPPORTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR SYRIA, AS WE MADE CLEAR IN OUR PRESENTATIONS TO CONGRESS. SYRIA PLAYS AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE MIDDLE EAST, AND THE U.S. RELATIONSHIP WITH SYRIA IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF OUR POLICY TOWARD THE MIDDLE EAST.

WE OF COURSE ARE GOING TO BE CONTINUING CONSULTATIONS WITH CONGRESS ON THE AID BILL -- WHICH, I MIGHT ADD, I DOUBT IS FINISHED YET; I UNDERSTAND THERE ARE A NUMBER OF OTHER AMENDMENTS COMING -- INCLUDING THE PORTION DEALING WITH SYRIA. WE WILL CONTINUE TO URGE THAT THE CONGRESS APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THIS PROGRAM. END QUOTE.

9. ICHORD AMENDMENT. YOUR QUERY CONCERNING THE ICHORD AMENDMENT IS BEING ANSWERED IN THE EVENING READING.

CHRISTOPHER

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